Application No.: 10/763,410 Docket No.: 04394/0200800-US0

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Withdrawn) A combination of clothing articles packaged for sale, comprising:

a shirt having a shirt collar;

a necktie disposed about the shirt collar and comprising a length of fabric having first and second ends and at least one fold intermediate the first and second ends;

an elastic band passing transversely to the length of fabric within the fold and sized to be stretchably received about the shirt collar; and

a clip engaged with the fabric proximate to the fold, the clip pinching the fabric so as to emulate the appearance of a tie knot.

- 2. (Withdrawn) The combination of clothing items of claim 1, wherein the elastic band passes continuously within the fold.
- 3. (Withdrawn) The combination of clothing items of claim 2, wherein the elastic band is a rubber band.
- 4. (Withdrawn) The combination of clothing items of claim 1, wherein the clip is generally U-shaped.

Application No.: 10/763,410 Docket No.: 04394/0200800-US0

5. (Withdrawn) The combination of clothing items of claim 4, wherein the clip comprises a horizontal base and two fingers the two fingers being resiliently mounted on opposite sides of the base.

- 6. (Withdrawn) The combination of clothing items of claim 5, wherein the base further comprises a reinforcement.
- 7. (Original) A method for packaging a necktie and shirt combination, comprising the steps of:

providing a shirt having a shirt collar;

providing a necktie comprising a length of fabric having first and second ends;

folding the necktie along a line transverse to the length of fabric and intermediate the first and second ends, to create at least one fold;

positioning an elastic band within the fold;

wrapping the elastic band around the shirt collar; and

pinching the necktie at a position proximate to the fold with a clip.

Application No.: 10/763,410 Docket No.: 04394/0200800-US0

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, including the additional step of knotting the tie

after the positioning step, wherein the knot defines a channel transverse to the length of the fabric

and wherein the elastic band is further disposed within the channel.

9. (Original) A method for packaging a necktie and shirt combination, comprising the

steps of:

providing a shirt having a shirt collar;

providing a necktie comprising a length of fabric having first and second ends;

knotting the necktie to create a knot with a channel therein, the channel being transverse

to the length of fabric;

positioning an elastic band within the channel; and

wrapping the elastic band around the shirt collar.